

PEOPLE

A visit with Anne Antonellis

Business group president planning Holly Days

By Sharon Cronin, Clipper Staff

Anne Antonellis is extremely involved in many aspects of Duxbury. She is the owner of Duxbury Mortgage Services located in Hall's Corner, but her involvement goes far beyond her career. She is the president of the Duxbury Business Association, a member of the Economic Advisory Committee, board of directors of the Council on Aging, the board of directors for the Alden House, and a member of the South Shore Chamber Women's Business Connection.



Between her business, the Duxbury Business Association and Holly Days, Anne Antonellis is quite the busy woman!

ground?

My husband, Steve, and I are both graduates of Duxbury High School. I also graduated from Regis College with a degree in economics. I just sort of fell into banking. I started in the mortgage industry in 1985 and opened my own business in 2002. I have two daughters, both DHS graduates (only our cat is not a DHS grad!). Chrissy is a senior at U Mass Amherst, and Danielle is a sophomore at Worcester Polytechnic Institute.

Tell me about your business, Duxbury Mortgage Services.

I started Duxbury Mortgage Services back in 2002 because I wanted to offer a "boutique-style" mortgage business alternative. That is, my customers deal with just one person, not multiple departments. We write strictly residential mortgages. I have been in the mortgage industry since 1985 and really pride myself on staying up on all the changes in my industry and, in the last few years, it's constant. I have been very lucky to be able to have my office in Duxbury where I live so I can be close to my family and involved in the town happenings. The biggest challenge being a smaller company is to stay on top of the new banking compliance issues, but I do it by keeping involved in my industries associations. I have two employees, Mary Alice Scanlon, my assistant, and Timothy Driscoll, the mortgage originator.

What is the Duxbury Business Association and who is involved?

The DBA is a group of business owners, retail and professional, that have a tie to Duxbury. The members are either are residents or own businesses in the town. Over 90 businesses are members of the DBA. We meet monthly, and find ways to promote our services and give back to the community. Our biggest event is Holly Days. In addition, we sponsor the Edward Barnard ("Barney") scholarship, given to a student entering a business school or on a vocational track. The DBA is also involved in supporting other non-profit organizations in town such as the Duxbury Student Union, which has a student leader program. Participants, upon their graduation from the program, are issued certificates by members of the DBA.

What is Holly Days, and how is the planning going?

This year will be the fifth annual Holly Days. It literally started with a dream I had, where there were trolleys driving around Duxbury celebrating the winter holidays. So I woke up, and said, why not? Holly Days combines the joy of the holiday season with shopping locally. This year's Holly Days is on Nov. 29 from

12-4 p.m. We are in the final stages of planning and are including new venues as well as the favorites from years past. We will have pony rides, a hay ride, Santa, the Children's Hospital Bloodmobile, trolleys with carolers, face painting, etc. Even the Post Office will be taking passport pictures. At the end of it all, the Rotary Club will host the annual tree lighting on the Town Green.

How can the community get involved?

Come! And bring your friends and family from all over. Enjoy the day and visit the local retail shops that day and all holiday season! Most businesses in town are small, and in today's economic environment, we need local support. If anyone would like to volunteer, call me at Duxbury Mortgage Services. We're still looking for more trolley singers!

What do you like to do in your free time?

What's that? Seriously, I love to read, spend time with close friends, and I spend a lot of time traveling to WPI to watch my daughter's field hockey games. I am very involved in all these town committees, which doesn't give me much free time, but this is what I love.